Commentary and Opinion

PUBLIC SCHOOLS: Still the American Melting Pot

Kids, Parents, Forget Prestige Prep-D.C.'s Public Schools Can Put You On the Fast Track!

By Robert S. Greenberger

AN YOU NAME a local high school whose students come from 75 countries? Whose, short has distinguished itself in competitions from Boston to Verena and whose seniors this year being a warded about \$850,000 in academic about the sawarded about \$850,000 in academic local warded ware warded warded warded warded warded warded warded warded warded

Robert Greenberger is the State Department correspondent for the Wall Street Journal.

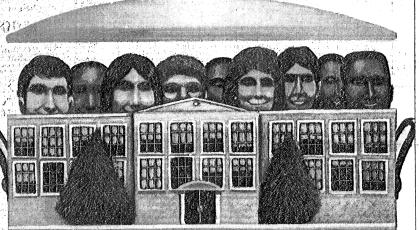
distance, remains one of the Destrupt's secusion.

Over the years, whenever my wife, Phyllis, and I mention that our three sons attend District public schools, we often get looks suggesting we must be either indigent or child abusers. We are neither.

We sent our children to local public schools because they offer a first-rate education together with the chance to know kids with backgrounds different from their own and to understand that many of those differences aren't as important as they might

Wilson, the local public school that is within walking distance, remains one of the best-kept secrets in town.

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Has Webster's No-Risk CIA Lost Its Punch?

By Tom Polgar

ILLIAM H. WEBSTER has been director of the Central Intelligence Agency since May 1987. His priorities during the first year were the restoration of some calm and order and "cleaning up Casey's mess." He promised to keep CIA operations in "absolute fidelity to our Constitution and to our laws" and he has been successful in developing friendly work ing relations with Congress.

All this is to the good. But agency veterans cannot help but wonder whether in this new world of harmony and regulated orderliness there will be any room for the occasionally controversial and at times messy clandes the operations that are an essential part of the CIA's mission.

During his distinguished career as a federal judge and FBI director, Webster was not known as a risk-taker, the standard of the control of th

information that foreign governments, groups or organizations do not want to give.

Clandestine collection of secret intelligence is always illicit. Whether it is evil depends on the eyes of the beholer. We look with greater kindness on those who spy for the United States than on those who spy against us. But let us not fool ourselves: What is illigal under U.S. law when carried out against American interests is also

See CIA, C2, Col. 1

Tom Polgar retired from the CIA in 1981 after 35 ye working in American intelligence.

MARY McGRORY

Dukakis' Ironing-Board Power

purposeful young women, all purposeful young women, all purposeful young women, all participation in Democracy, move onto the campus of Lincoln High School and go to work. First they set up four ironing hoards.

Ironing boards? Yes. They're easier to Mary McGrory is a Washington Post

carry, accommodate more clipboards, and would-be registrants don't have to bend over as they would for the traditional card table.

Of course, it also means that the registrant must stand the whole time.

registrant must stand the whole time. But commitment is at the core of the CPD efforts—which, despite its homely trademark, is the most sophisticated, structured, computerized registration drive in the country. The center is a

non-partisan, tax-exempt organization which will close down on Oct. 11, the last day of registration. If, however, it reaches its goal of adding one million new ofcers to the rolls, Michael Dukakis will be the beneficiary and win California's 47 electoral votes. There are few Republicans in the minority, low-income and youth populations in ironing-board territory.

See McGRORY, CS. Col. 4

With Bobby Kennedy On That Last Campaign

By Richard Harwood

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W E OFTEN PLAY "what if" games with dead favorites and herces. I've however found it useful to do that with Bobby Kennedy. He was enigmatic and unpredictable in life and, 20 years after his death, we have found no Rosetta Stone to explain him or reveal a script or another fats of the property of t

few specific campaign promises was made in jest to the columnist, Jack Newfield: He

Richard Harwood is The Post's Ombudsman. He covered Robert Kennedy's 1968 campaign as a reporter for The Post.



would change the national anthem to "This Land Is Your Land." When the wind in Ne

Would change the anatona antient of They Land Is Your Land. When the wind in Nebraska swept a page from his speech, hethrew up his hands and declared: Welf, there it went, my entire farm policy. This crowd loved the joke. The real joke is that it was true. He barely knew a pig from a groundhog.

Many in his family recall him as a more radical figure than I remember. But then he was changing all the time, becoming a more interesting and more provocative many changing, it sometimes seemed, from day to day in ways that enhanced him and fascinated those around him. Martin Luther King Ir, once used a phrase that caught, Kennedy's essence: "A creative synthesis of opposites."

The Devil in Gorbachev

Would Congress Balk at Deals With the Antichrist?

By Art Levine

AYBE IT'S that weird red mark on Mikhail. Gorbachev's forehead; ment that Ronald Reagan has gone to Moscow. But for whatever reason, there is a small but vocal group of fundamenfalist Christians who are prepared to argue that the Soviet general secretary is the Anti-christ, the Devil's agent on Earth. They don't simply mean that Gorbachev is an evil man, or that he represents an evil system. No. They mean that he is the tool of the Devil. The Antichrist, Mr. 666 finneself, "The evidence is overwhelming that Corbachev is the Antichrist," says Robert Wispervisor who holds a mastere college and the coll

To Faid, last week's summit meeting in Moscow was a tragedy: "I'm sure that President Reagan has no idea that who he's talking to is, as the evidence indicates, the Antichrist."

sient Reagan has no luck that who he s' cusling to is, as the evidence indicates, the Antichrist. The matter of that birthmark on
Gachelve's forebeat. To Fald and those
who share his views, that's not just an ordinary birthmark. It's The Mark of Satan.

"When I look at the top of Gorbachev's
head, I see are dragon and over the right
eye, there's a tail that hangs, representing
stars, "says Faid. He explains that St. John,
in Revelations: 12:3-4, portrays Satan in
similar terms, as a "great red dragon...
and his tail drew the third part of the stars
of heaven, and did cast them to the earth
..." Thus, says Faid, 'It Gorbachev's truly
the Antichrist, is New Testament lore,
is the Satanic dictator who will plung the
world into misery and war before the
world into misery and war before the
world into misery and war before
Christ returns been of one condidates noninated
for this jost by fundamentalist Christians—
See Oorbachey, Cs. Co. 1



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How Customs Got Stung By a Sting

The Escapades of Two Texas Lawmen Show How Trap Tactics Backfire

By Mark Hosenball

URING THE 1980s, "sting" operations have become a routine part of law enforcement. But a bizarre ase involving two part-time Texas sher-fiff shows how badly such tactics can backfire.

The case involves Gary Howard and Ronald Tucker, two part-time deputies attached to the sheriff's office in Midland County, Tex. Over the past several years, floward and Tucker have dazded both high-powered police agencies and some of the nation's most prestigious média out-test with tales of their profigious exploits as America's most skilful law enforcement "stime" artists.

S America's most shiful law enforcement futing artists.

But like other recent stories of patriotic intrigue and valor; the heroic saga of Tucker and Howard now has degenerated from the merical from the merical futing the three for \$99 million, plus expenses, claiming that the U.S. Customs Service failed to may them for their role in a convoluted, and ultimately unsuccessful, sting operation against an international arms dealer known as 'Dr. Doom,' Customs is contesting the suit.

imown as "Dr. Doom," customs is contest-ing the suit.

Court documents and interviews with officials who have dealt with Howard and Tucker suggest that in their dealings with. Customs, Howard and Tucker suggest that in their dealings with worst nightmares to life. When the FBI, in 1890, used profession on truck an early "Asting" operation against white-collar criminals, civil libertarians warned theren were grave dangers inherent in the crminals, civil libertarians warned that there were grave dangers inherent in the practice of staging masquerades to trap crooks. Their argument was that the comes sactioned by the government were creating crimes which the targets of the investigation might not otherwise have committed.

There were congressional investiga-

meaning and the state of the st

ulation.
Customs Service officials acknowledge that in the course of their agency's dealings with Howard and Tucker, the "sting" method got out of hand. Indeed, the story of the Customs Service's dealings with

Mark Hosenball is a correspondent in Washington for the Sunday Times of

operation.

The story of how Customs misman-ged the undercover activities of Howard and Tucker is only one item in a growing body of evidence that federal law enforcement segencies inflatution with sting operations may have gotten out of had. The performance of informats has become a central issue in several recent major cases.

sting operations may have gotten out of hand. The performance of informants has become a central issue in several recent major cases.

In a case pending in federal court in Manhattan, more than a dozen arms dealerated the major and a retired Isacel igeneral, face trial on charges of plotting to ship weapons to Iran. The case grew out of a Customs sting operation set up by an Iranian businessman named Cyrus Hashemi. According to the Tower Commission and other government sources, Itashemi, who himself was under indictment for breaking American sanctions against Iran during the 1973-80 hostage crisis, hatched the sting operation after the CIA rejected the sting operation after the CIA rejected the sting operation after the CIA rejected the work of the sting operation after the CIA rejected the work of the sting operation after the CIA rejected the work of the sting operation after the CIA rejected the work of the sting operation after the CIA rejected the work of the sting operation after the CIA rejected the sting operation after the CIA rejected the beautiful to the sting operation of the indictment against himself. (Hashemi died suddenly in London in 1986.)

In another Iranian arms sting staged by the FBI, the key informant was a convicted tax evader who had been labeled as a major Mafia boss by a California organized crime commission whose members included Edwir Messe III. Defense law yers claimed at the trial that the informant harden the conviction of seven defendants arrested in the case were convicted, and the conviction of the alleged ringleader was thrown out after the Iran-contra affair became public.

The Howard and Tucker case has even

spawned at least one copycat lawsuit. Three other Taxans who claimed they were hired by Quatoms to act as information of the property of the property of the state of the stat

lawsuit.

The case of Howard and Tucker shows the problem with sting opments made public during the course of the, Texins' lawsuit against the government disclose that under the auspices of the Customs Service's Houston office, Howard and Tucker set up at least two "stings" along these lines in the early



Description and investigation into the fillegal shipment of American arms to South Africa, the documents show that the Customs agents in charge of the case actually gave their blessings to an arrangement under which the informants would pocket part of the money advanced to them by the targets of their sting.

In a sworn affidavit, Howard says that he and Tucker Testined \$800,000 of the \$1.2 million 'buy' money' paid by the targets. Later, the Customs Service gave them an additional \$250,000 as an orificial reward for their performance.

As a result of their apparently successful work in this operation, Customs and the two informants began work on cond, similar strainly, the corpulent British arms merchant tacknamed Dr. Doom. According to charges made by Howard

and Tucker, Customs' idea was to "set up" Smalley by enticing him into a scheme to supply Iran and Iraq with \$1 billion worth of advanced American weaponry, includ-ing battle taples

or avanced American weaponry, including battle tands. Tucker allege that Customs officials in charge of the operation against that the control of the contro

yer. The lawyer, Rick Harrison of Austin, said that he would not object to Howard being interviewed for this article. Howard and Tucker have not responded to repeated requests for an interview. Harrison said he could not comment on evidence in a case which is still in litigation. But a source close to the Texans confirmed that they did receive a large amount of money from Smalley, although the source insisted the Texans would be able to produce convincing documentation for every expense item which they are claiming in their lawsuit. The source also insisted that while the arrangement under which the Texans were to be paid out of funds advanced by sting targets may well have resembled a clever scam, the informants never acted without government approval.

Customs attitude towards Howard and Customs attitude towards Howard and 20-foot pole." But Customs officials concede that by acquiescing in the Texans' schemes in the first place, the agency not only has weakened its own defense against the informants' claims—which are being taken with considerable seriousness by the U.S. Claims Court—but also encouraged Tucker and Howard to ty to self the same scheme to other law enforcement agencies.

aged Tucker and Howard to try to sell the same scheme to other law enforcement agencies.

A fire the Iran-contra affair became public, the two Texans stepped forward to claim part of the glory. They told a team of reporters from Knight-Ridder newspapers that they were the model for a Reagan administration policy of carrying out politically awkward covert actions through private companies. According to the Knight-Ridder story, secret activities which government officials to the contract of the state of the s

The No-Risk CIA

CIA, From C1

CIA, From C1
likely to be illegal under the laws of foreign countries when carried out against their neterests.

It is an interesting moral question whether tivilized countries should engage in esplonage—authorized illegality, to put it blunt-ly—against each other, Can it be moral and ethical for the government to organize activities in disregard of the Ten Commandments and to conspire to vloighte the laws of foreign countries with which we are at peace?

Does the national interest justify the seduction of consenting adults to perform tasks which may become very unhealthy for them? Intelligence officers must struggle with these motional issues, but there is no doubt that national intelligence activities are here to stay. Every administration since President Truman's has expanded and attempted to improve, intelligence collection, and every Congress since 1947 has authorized and appropriated was tumns to that end.

Congress since 1947 has authorized and approprised vast sums to that end.

Most recently the congressional commit-rees investigating the Iran-contra affair re-affirmed the conclusion that organized and structured intelligence activities are one of the realities of the world we live in and that the intelligence services are fully compatible with democratic government when their ac-tions are conducted in an accountable man-ner and in accordance with the law.

To one would argue against the concept that American intelligence must operate in the framework of the legal, constitutional and philosophic concepts that characterize the United States. But little thought has been given to the natural dichocomy between the requirements of effective

espionage—conspiracy, stealth and deceit—and the conventional legal and regulatory framework of public administration.

This dichotomy could be managed as long as there was a general, if unspoken, agreement involving the CIA, the administration, the Congress and the media that some things are better left unsaid; that the national interest involves certain things—just like sesential, natural bodily functions—about which it is best not to talk in public and which should not be performed where they coal down during the Victain War and it has not been restored in the succeeding years, when intelligence operations became a optical footbal.

The congressional investigations of the CIA in the mid-1970 shegan the treat of "legalize" espionage to try to conduct the conspiracion necessary to steal secrets in accordance with domestic law and in deference to the sensitivities of domestic pressure groups. There have also been continuing attempts, even within CIA, to apply to the CIA's clandestine activities the assorted laws, rules and regulations of conventional civil service.

It is hard to be against fair employment practices or in favor of sexual, and regulations of conventional civil service.

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It is hard to be against fair employment gractices of the CIA's clandestine Service—which conducts our espionage operations—in not the promotion of social justice in the United States. Spying against the success of the mission are wastly increased when CIA assigns people to operational tasks by criteria other than specific suitability for the job at hand. The KGB awards no browine points to CIA stations that comply with equal-opportunity employment guidelines.

During my active-duty days, I found congressional oversight of the Clandestine Service to be friendly and understanding—even admiring. But there are ample signs that it has resulted in making the CIA more bureaucrate. This has tended to inhibit resolute action, blur the authority of line managers, divert resources from the operational mission and move decision-making upward and even outside the agency state of the contract of

interpreted as a criticism of the personnel. They are in all likelihood as good as the U.S. government can produce these days. There have been indications of shortcomings, however, partly caused by insufficient appreciation that the second produce of the second produce and cultivation of the control of the second produce and cultivarious and cultivarious conditions of the Clandestine Service, when the agency preast the psychological contract that it will protect its people, there will be an effect on morale, Initiative is the distinguishing feature of the clandestine operator, but initiative is a tender flower requiring a very special climate.

but initiative is a tender flower requiring a very special climate.

Inose who seek to defend recent trends at the agency contend that tumover rates in CA are lower than elsewhere in the federal civil service, but I am unimpressed by the content of the content

ing common support services. No one in his right mind would consider doctors, nurses, detections, laboratory personnel, administrators, telepton operations, electron operations, and the consideration of the part of the consideration of the hospital. Clandestine operations officers abroad—along with the supporting personnel—are, or at least should be, a very special breed. Yes, they need rotation between foreign and domestic assignments or among the different components of the CIA, but not at the expense of their operations alstills or with a lowering of standards in the staffing of clandestine operations.

The Clandestine Service of the CIA could be

The Clandestine Service of the CIA could be smaller with a proportionate reduction in its responsibilities. Indeed, it would be a better service if it could stick to those matters that require secret operations in strict definition of the term—rather than a broader menu that may include quasi-public paramiltary operations. Conversely, the quality of service will continue to suffer if more mover, more people and especially more lawyers are sought as the remedies to the current problems of it was also to interiors with the current problems of it was also to interiors with the enthusiasm, unitative or resourcefulness of the operations. America needs to frame its intelligence policies with a clearer and more honest understanding of what the intelligence business is all about. It involves, even in its least uncontroversial task of intelligence collection, the systemmatic violation of the laws of other countries. A delicate balance must be found in attempting to conduct in a legal manner activities that must be outside the law. The Clandestine Service does not need any additional legislation or more regulations or more oversight. It needs containally of quality and the previous of the field, and common sense and discretion in conducting operations.

That Last Campaign

RENNEDY, From C1

tool, pushed and hauled this way and that, He was four or five inches under six feet and very sleader and fragile-looking in his campaign costume. On the playing fields he was a fine and aggressive athlete in a sturdy body and the comparison of to toughness. The continuity of the continuity of the protective toward him. Sometimes late at night on the plane, slouched in his seat and wrung out from fatigue, you could see his hands tremble. In part it was a case of stage fright, of not being sure of himself as he faced up to the enormity of what he was trying to do. He remarked to a journalist midway in the campaign that, "I think. I would make this one effort. and if it fails I would go back to

purged his psyche and soul of bitterness. They say Kennedys are "good haters," which means they never forgive. But we saw little or none of that. Instead, he made

saw little or none of that. Instead, he made us laugh a lot.

He had always had a fine sense of humor and a sharp, self-deprecating wit. Nicholas Katzenbach remembers being dispatched, as deputy attorney general, to the University of Mississippi in 1962. People were being shot down there in the federal effort to put a black man in the school. As Katzenbach departed, Bobby called after him: "If things get rough, don't worry about yourself; the president needs a moral issue."

rein; tree president needs a moral issue."

arlier in his career, he had been called a "vicious little monster" by a lawyer for the Teamsters Union. When asked for a comment, Kennedy replied: "I'm not so little."

During a campaign appearance in Indianapolis in the spring of 1968, Kennedy spotted an old pal in the crowd. It was Walter Dombrow, a CBS gameraman. Kennedy ordered

inal stanza was:
So her's to Ruthless Robert
May his name forever stand
To be foared and gensificated at
By ploi across the land.
Ho Chi Minh is cherring,
And though it may appail,
He's whizzan to the White House
On, the Ruthless Cannonball.

the car stopped, stood up on the back of the convertible and jumped off into Dombro's arms, yelling: Catch me, Walter."
It was in Indiana that he started ending every speech with a baffling quotation, allegedly from George Bernard Shaw: "Some people see things as they are and ask why? It means that never were and ask, why not?" The only utility of that ending was to test us know it was time to run for the bus.
It was also in Indiana, traveling on a carapraign train, that Jules Witcover and other reporters composed a satirical version of "The Wabash Cannoball." It was called, naturally, "The Ruthess Cannoball." It was called, naturally, "The Ruthess Cannoball. The final stanta was:

So hery's to Ruthless Robert.

There was a minute of silence before Kenter of the previous constant of the yellow responded: "As George Bernard Shaw and expense to you buddy." Then, jumped and policy in the proper disclosure. I had known Bobby: In a mining on here, I have not yet made to proper disclosure. I had known Bobby: Kennedy slightly prior to the 1968 campaign and found him not tony liking. That is one of not previously the proper disclosure. I had known Bobby: Kennedy slightly prior to the 1968 campaign and found him not tony liking. That is one of not prevent the proper disclosure. I had known Bobby: Kennedy slightly prior to the 1968 campaign and found him not tony liking. That is one of not prevent and found him not tony liking. That is one of not prevent and found him not to my liking. That is one of not prevent and found him not to my liking. That is one of not proper disclosure. I have not see the proper disclosure. I had known Bobby: Kennedy slightly prior to the 1968 campaign and found him not tony liking. That is one of not proper disclosure. I have not see the proper disclosure. I had known Bobby: I have not see the proper disclosure. I have not see the proper discl

At St. Patrick's Cathedral, where the funeral was held, the service was extended, with music, eulogies and prayers. At the end, one of his friends said to me, "If it had gone on much longer, Bobby would have started kicking the box."

I've thought since that Bobby must have given him that line.